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On the Synonymy, etc. of certain species of American LEPIDOPTERA.

BY AUG. R. GROTE,

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SPHINX, Linn.

Sphinx harrisii (*Ellema harrisii*, Clemens).

I have seen, in the collection of the British Museum, the specimens determined as *Anceryx coniferarum* by Mr. Walker in the British Museum Lists (Lep, Pt. viii, p. 224). These are two in number; the first (*a*) is a specimen of the European *Sphinx pinastri*, and seems to have furnished the basis of Mr. Walker's diagnosis. The second (*b*) is the true *Sphinx coniferarum* of Smith as figured by Abbot in the *Lepidop. Ins. Ga.*" This individual agreed with other specimens from Georgia in the collection of Dr. Boisduval in Paris. Without material of our Northern *S. harrisii* at hand for comparison, these specimens seemed to me to constitute a distinct species, differing apparently in the greater size and the fewer markings of the primaries; thus approaching the European *Sphinx pinastri* closer than does *Sphinx harrisii*. Both forms (assuming them to be distinct between themselves) are to be at once distinguished from *Sphinx pinastri*, by their immaculate abdomen. However, until specimens of *Sphinx coniferarum*, *Smith*, are received from the Southern States and compared with our Northern *Sphinx harrisii*, the question of the specific validity of the latter cannot be settled.

I have also seen an original drawing by Abbot of *Sphinx coniferarum*, *Smith*, through the kindness of Dr. Gray. As compared with the British Museum specimen of the species (alluded to above) it entirely agreed, but when compared with the engraved Plate in Smith's work it differed slightly in that the markings of the primaries were less prominent; these had been somewhat exaggerated by the engraver.

With regard to *Sphinx bombycoides* (*Lapara bombycoides*, Walker), described very briefly in the British Museum Lists from a Canadian specimen in Mr. Saunder's Collection, I am of opinion that it will prove to be identical with *Sphinx harrisii*, although the short diagnosis affords no certainty on the subject.

Both *S. coniferarum* and *S. harrisii* belongs to *Hyloicus Hübner*, of which *S. (Hyloicus) pinastri* of Europe is typical, and which is now

regarded as a subgeneric division of *Sphinx*, Linn. (*Lethia*, Hübner.) and of which latter genus *Sphinx ligustri* of Europe is the highest form. The European *Sphinx convolvuli* on the other hand is regarded as belonging to *Macrosila* and as the lowest form of a genus well represented in America by the more typical species: *M. rustica*, *M. carolina*, etc.

A comparison of our *Sphingidae* with those of Europe is necessary in order to understand the limit and value of the different genera*.

HORAMA, Hübner.

Horama texana (*Euchromia plumipes* ‡ Clemens; *Callicarus texanus*, Grote.).

Since describing this species, † I have seen the specimens described by Dr. Clemens ‡ and regarded by him as belonging to the species illustrated by Drury under the name of *Sphinx plumipes* §. I find that they belong to *Horama*, and from their antennal structure are congeneric with *Horama pretus*, Hübner, and *Horama diffissa*, Grote. I am also under the impression that I saw specimens of *H. texana* in the British Museum, erroneously regarded as a variety of *H. pretus*.

SCEPSIS, Walker.

Scepsis fulvicollis, Walker.

I mention this species in order to record for it a more extended geographical range than has been hitherto allowed by Authors. I have it from Texas, Florida, Georgia, Pennsylvania and New York. The genus is represented in California by *S. packardii*, Grote. On August the 20th a specimen of *S. fulvicollis* came to light at Hastings, N. Y. On the 11th of September I took a number of specimens of *S. fulvicollis* on the flowers of the golden rod (*Solidago*) near Buffalo, N. Y. It is on this same plant, though not on this alone, that, later on in the year, our common grasshopper (*Locusta*) ascends to die: and expires clinging to the upper branchlets, to which after death its body still remains attached. A curious habit and a suggestive. As if escaping from Earth.

* See on this point *Lepidopterological Contributions* by myself and Mr. Robinson, Ann. N. Y. Lyc. Vol. viii. 1866; on the third page of this paper, line 23, an error has occurred where "*Sphinx convolvuli*" is printed instead of *Sphinx ligustri*. This is evident from the context, line 28 id. pag.

† Notes on the *Zygaenidae* of Cuba, Part 1, p. 12, 1866.

‡ Proc. A. N. S. Phil. p. 546, 1860.

§ Ill. Exot. Ent. Vol. 11, fig. 3.

ARCTIA, *Schrank.*

Arctia nais, *Hübner* (♀ *Bombyx nais* Drury; ♂ *Arctia phalerata*, Harris.).

Those Authors who have distinguished the *Arctia phalerata* of Harris from Drury's *Bombyx nais*, have overlooked the fact that the former is the true male of the latter, and have regarded the sexual as a specific distinction. Hübner committed then no error in his representation of the male *A. nais* (Zutraege Dritt. Hund. fig. 599—600) although, as stated by Dr. Packard with an opposite conclusion, he "figures what is unmistakably *A. phalerata* Harris" (Syn. U. S. Bombyc. Proc. Ent. Soc. Phil. p. 177, 1864.).

Drury's figure (Vol. 1, pl. vii, fig. 3) represents a female with yellow secondaries which may be considered the typical form, though apparently more rarely occurring than the female with crimson hind wings. This latter may be known as *Arctia nais*, var. *decorata* *Saunders*. It is the *Arctia decorata* of Mr. Saunders and is also described by Mr. Walker under the names of *Apantesis radians* and *Aloa colorata*. I have seen the specimen in the British Museum under the former name. It is immature, the secondaries dwarfed, and this accidental peculiarity is erroneously regarded by Mr. Walker as normally structural and furnishes the principal character on which he found his genus *Apantesis*. Under these circumstances the name proposed by Mr. Saunders may be retained for the variety, although later in date of publication, having on the other hand precedence by priority over Mr. Walker's *Aloa colorata*.

The male *A. nais* has the secondaries usually yellow but sometimes tinged with rose color. In either sex the markings of the upper surface of the primaries are variable. This is especially noticeable in the female, in which sex the yellow bands and stripes are more or less obsolete, sometimes leaving the wings entirely velvety black with a single abbreviated stripe along the median nervure.

What seems to be a variety of the male occurs in which the markings of the primaries are very broad and distinct.

Arctia complicata, *Walker*.

This species differs from *A. dahurica* by its paler yellow color. On the upper surface of the primaries, the transverse band is obsolete. Unlike its ally, the K-shaped stripes are not obsolete on cell 3. The secondaries are more entirely black; these show pale yellow patches, smaller, differently shaped and more irregular than in *A. dahurica*. There are black scales on the vertex and two superlateral black spots on the yellow "collar". The thoracic disc is black, edged with yellow lateral scales.

I have seen Mr. Walker's type of *A. complicata*, from Vancouver's Island, in the British Museum collection and it appears to me to represent a valid species previously undescribed.

PHOBETRON, Hübner.

Phobetron pithecium, Packard (*Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis* † Packard).

The male specimen spoken of by Dr. Packard in the "Synopsis of the Bombycidae of the United States," and there determined as *Thyridopteryx sphemeraeformis*, proves to be, as I am subsequently informed by the Author, a male of the present species in which the sexes are quite dissimilar. This circumstance explains the fact that the true *Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis* of Stephens is registered in the "Synopsis" under the name subsequently proposed for it by Dr. Harris, viz: *Oiketicus* (*oeceticus*) *coniferarum*.

Following out Dr. Packard's remarks (l. c.), I am led to regard *Phobetron nigricans* (*Thyridop. nigricans*, Pack. l. c.) as a distinct form, although I have as yet seen no specimens of this second species of the genus.

ADONETA, Clemens.

Adoneta spinuloides (*Limnacodes spin.* H.-S.; *Adoneta voluta*, Clemens; *Cyclopteryx* || *spin.* Pack.).

An examination of the types of Dr. Clemens's *Adoneta voluta*, now in the possession of the American Entomological Society, enables me to refer the species as identical with one previously illustrated by Dr. Herrich-Schaeffer. The generic term employed by Dr. Packard in the "Synopsis" had also been previously used by Guenée.

The typical specimen of *Adoneta leucosigma* (*Cyclopteryx* || *leucos.* Pack.) is also contained in the collection of the Entomological Society. It is a male and as yet the sole representative of the species that I have seen.

TELEA, Hübner.

Telea montezuma (*Saturnia montezuma* Sallé).

This species from Mexico, which I have seen in the Museum at the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, resembles our United States *Telea polyphemus* quite closely, but is at once distinguished and characterized by the uneven external margin of the wings.

ACRONYCTA, Ochsen.

Acronycta vinnula (*Microcoelia vinnula* Grote).

I here correct my original generic reference of this species which is easily recognized by the olivaceous shading of the upper surface of the primaries and its small compact form. It is as yet rare in collections.

DERRIMA, *Walker*.

Derrima henrietta (*Philomma henrietta* Grote).

I have seen in the British Museum Collection the type of *Derrima stellata*, *Walker*. It is a female and closely resembles *P. henrietta* with which it is congeneric. Mr. Walker places the genus as belonging to the group of genera regarded as a Family under the name of *Acontidae*. I am still of the opinion that the genus is allied to *Anthoecia* and *Heliothis*. The squamation is rough and lustreless, not smooth and lustrous as in *Tarache* (*Acontia*) and its allies. From *D. henrietta*, of which I have a very numerous series of both sexes, Mr. Walker's *D. stellata* differs as follows: the fringes on both wings are long and pink; the secondaries above and both wings beneath are suffused with pink; the ocellate spots on the primaries above are a little larger, pure white narrowly margined with black scales, not with suffused ferruginous borders (in which the lower spot is generally absorbed) as in *D. henrietta*; the pink terminal space of the same wings is shaded with yellow and the ground color of both wings beneath is yellow shaded with pink on the borders; finally the narrow line, which defines the pink terminal space inwardly, appears to be straight, not scalloped and defined by white dots as in *D. henrietta*.

I have placed a specimen of *D. henrietta* in the British Museum Collection.

CALLEDAPTERYX (n. g. *Phalaenidae*).

Head small; eyes globose and large; antennae short, simple, rather stout and closely scaled. Labial palpi slight, divaricate, passing beyond the front. Legs stout, smoothly scaled; hind tibiae with two pair of stout spurs, lower pair half the length of the tarsi.

Wings with scalloped margin. Primaries with the costa rising and slightly arched to the rounded apices; below these the external margin is deeply and evenly semi-circularly cut out to extremity of first median nervule, below which point the margin retires straightly and evenly inwardly obliquely to the exerted internal angle. Internal margin very sinuate, retiring inwardly behind the angle. Neuration: Costal nervure simple; subcostal nervure throwing off from its upper side the first, second and third s. c. nervules on the margin, from a point at about the middle of the wing: these nervules approximate and equidistant at base, 1 and 2 simple, 3 shortly furcate just before the margin; fourth and fifth s. c. nervules thrown off together at the extremity of the nervure; fourth, furcate before the apex of the wing, the sixth is simple, joining the external margin at the subapical excavation; a

discal fold; the cell is open; median nervure three branched, first and second m. nervules thrown off together at the extremity of the nervure; third, more remote; a submedian fold; internal nervure simple. Secondaries with the costal edge roundedly exerted at base, the costal nervure here bent upwardly and the tegument extended beyond it. The real apices of the wing are rounded and comparatively retired, but the external margin is pointedly projected beyond and below them at the extremity of the subcostal nervure or its upper branch or first nervule. Below this the external margin is slightly excavate to extremity of the lower branch or second s. c. nervule. Below this again the margin is more widely excavate, rising to the extremity of the first median nervule which is exerted to a point on a line with the extremity of the first s. c. nervule. Beyond this the margin is even to internal angle.

This genus is founded to receive a pretty little Phalaenid with beautifully cut wings, apparently allied to *Drepanodes Guenée* and *Timandra Walker*. When at rest the primaries are spread out horizontally, but the secondaries are depended, the internal margin folded over the abdomen; thus a wide space is left between the anterior and posterior wings.

***Calledapteryx dryopterata*, n. s.**

Entirely pale ochreous, sometimes entirely of a pale wood brown. Two transverse, dark, somewhat olivaceous lines cross the primaries at the middle; these are subparallel, outwardly angulated, narrow, and appear somewhat as the margins of an obsolete mesial band, being shaded and the space between them partly filled in with dark irrorations on the internal margin where the inner line is marked with two blackish or darker disconnected spots. The outer line is obsolete below the discal fold. A faint semicircular dark line before the subapical excavation on external margin. Fringes short, blackish. Secondaries resembling primaries. The two median lines are continued, more distinct and medially outwardly angulated and appear also to be obsoletely geminate with a paler included shade, the short fringes blackish. Beneath paler than above, immaculate, very sparsely and coarsely mixed with dark scales, or irrorate. Body and appendages concolorous with the wings, immaculate.

Expanse,—20 m.m. *Length of body*, 5 m.m.

Habitat.—Atlantic District (N. Y., Penna.). Imago flies in July and August.

TORTRIX, *Linn.****Tortrix rileyana*, n. s.**

♀. Deep ochreous. Primaries evenly washed with purplish, leaving the fringes and costal edge dark ochreous. The markings take the shape of dark velvety brown rounded maculations, generally of small size and faintly shaded with ochreous on the edges. Three of these subterminally at the base of the wing, subequal, situated interspaceally between the nervures. At a little within the middle of the costa are two fused maculations, the most prominent. Before and beyond these, some faint costal marks. At the extremity of the discal cell, above median nervure, is the first of a series of maculations, normally four in number but not constant, usually uneven in size. A subterminal series of spots is inaugurated on costa by a large compound shaded maculation. Below this, over the median nervules, sweeps an outwardly rounded series of small approximate dots. Two dots on costa, within and at the apex, and a faint terminal series of minute streaks is shortly discontinued. Secondaries of a lustrous bright deep ochreous; pale along costal margin and darker shaded along internal margin. Beneath, as are the secondaries above; both wings immaculate, primaries the darker. Body and appendages concolorous, bright deep ochreous. Antennae simple.

Expanse, 28 m.m. *Length of body*, 10 m.m.

"No 234, Larva on Hickory". Two specimens.

♂. Much smaller than the above, of a paler color. The upper surface of primaries not washed with purplish but merely of a darker ochreous than the secondaries. The maculations entirely similar but ferruginous, paler than in the ♀ and the slighter costal marks are obsolete. Abdomen with a moderate anal tuft. Legs at base and under thoracic surface almost whitish.

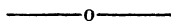
Expanse, 20 m.m. *Length of body*, 6 m.m.

"No. 234. Larva on Symphoricarpos." Two specimens.

Four specimens received from Mr. C. V. Riley, to whom I take pleasure in dedicating the species. Whether the differences noted above are sexual (which I incline to believe) or variations concomitant with the different food plants, I am unable to say and have not sufficient material to decide. The two male specimens agree with each other as do the two of the opposite sex.

Belongs to *Tortrix* *Linn.*, as more recently defined by Lederer and Heineman.

The costa of primaries is rounded from the base outwardly towards the apex, before which it is depressed, the apex rising, acuminate. The external margin recedes immediately below the apices, and is thence outwardly rounded, hardly oblique. The full secondaries are hardly produced at the apical angles. The neuration is typical and normal. The labial palpi are advanced beyond the front; third joint small, conical, scaled; middle tibiae with a single, the thicker hind tibiae with two pair of spurs.



Description of a new HESPERIAN.

BY WM. H. EDWARDS.

HESPERIA WACO, n. sp.

Male. Expands $\frac{8}{10}$ inch.

Upper side: both wings honey-yellow, immaculate, edged by a fine black line; secondaries black at base; a black ray from base along the costa and another a little within the abdominal margin; fringes color of wings.

Under side a little paler yellow; base of primaries black and same color for a little distance along the inner margin.

Body yellow above, white beneath; thorax white; palpi yellow-white.

From a single specimen, in the collection of Prof. Townend Glover, who received it from Dr. G. Linneecum, Texas.